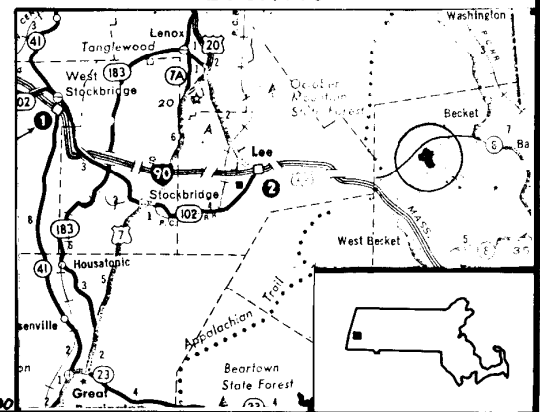


YOKUM POND
BECKET
109 Acres

LOCATION



NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES

YOKUM POND (Becket)

General Information:

This shallow, infertile, 109-acre great pond has a maximum depth of 10 feet and an average depth of less than 7 feet. Transparency is fair to good, extending to about 9 feet, and the water quality is excellent. The bottom consists of boulders, clay and scattered patches of gravel. Aquatic vegetation is scarce. The shoreline is only lightly developed with seasonal cottages, but other than a narrow, informal right-of-way, it is privately owned. This severely limits shoreline-fishing opportunities.

The best route to the pond involves taking Becket Road off Route 20 in Lee to Yokum Pond Road. The pond is only a few tenths of a mile down this road on the east side. The boat access/public right-of-way, located on the east side of the outlet, is informal and suitable only for car top boats and canoes. Fishing pressure and recreational use is light due to the limited access.

Fish Populations:

The pond was last surveyed in 1979, at which time only five species were recorded present: largemouth bass, chain pickerel, yellow perch, pumpkinseed and brown bullhead. The pond was partially reclaimed in 1957.

Fishing:

The infertility of the habitat results in generally low numbers and low growth rates for all of the fish species present. Bass and pickerel are both relatively scarce, and large examples appear nonexistent. The perch dominate the fishery, but they are all on the small side, rarely reaching nine inches. The pumpkinseeds are probably the best fish in terms of growth rates and average size.

The best we can say about this pond is that it is a nice place to spend an afternoon paddling around with the kids and fishing for pumpkinseeds. Activity is minimal and the scenery is pleasant. But don't expect much in terms of gamefishing action. This pond would also be a good spot for some early season ice fishing, since it has safe ice before most area ponds and contains abundant (but small) yellow perch.

February 1998